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Living Springs

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## January 1980 (Vol. 3 No. 5)

Cedarville College

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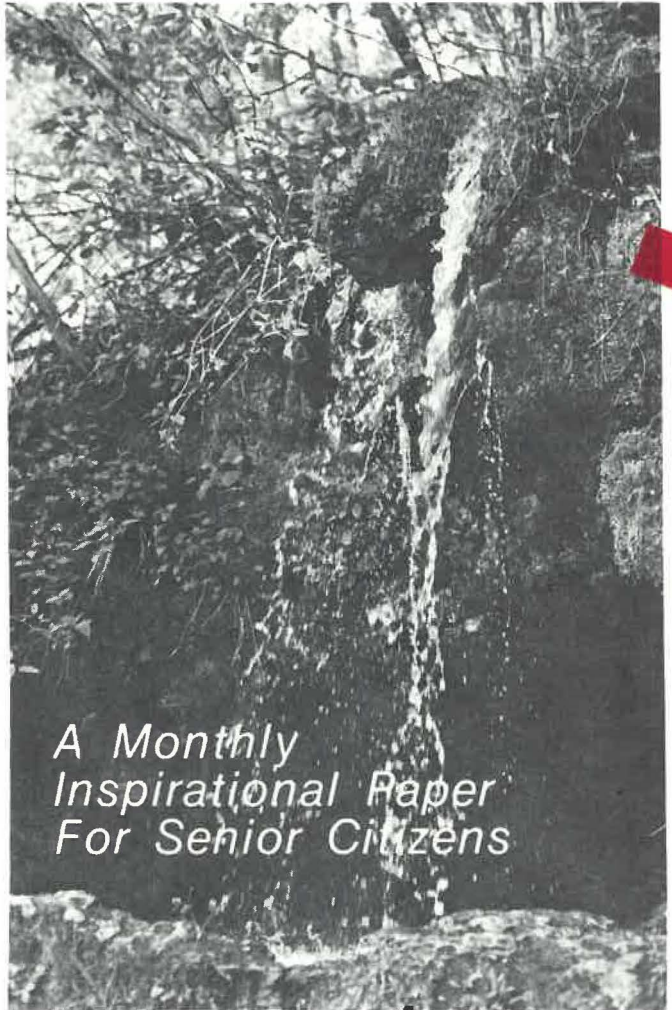
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# Living Springs

JAN. 1980

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*A Monthly  
Inspirational Paper  
For Senior Citizens*

JANUARY, 1980

**We can trust**

# **The BIBLE**

by

*Dr. Lehman Strauss*

The Bible is our one standard text-book, our safe and sane rule of faith and practice, our final court of appeal. True, the goal of understanding is not easily reached, nor will we know it perfectly in this life, but we must obey the command which, though addressed first to Timothy, applies to every Christian: "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Timothy 2:15). We must study this Book of all books because Christianity is again at the crossroads, and we Christians are compelled to choose the road upon which we will travel. It will not be an easy matter for some to make the right choice. The road map, the signposts and the guide books have been tampered with to intentionally lead us astray. But if the earnest seeker for truth will give himself to a careful reading and study of the Bible, he will not travel the wrong road nor come to the wrong destination.

The most serious and intense struggle in which the Christian Church has ever engaged is the war over the Word of God. If this war could be lost, our faith and hope in God would be destroyed and every witness for Christ would likewise be destroyed. The Apostle Paul warned of the coming war against the Word of God. Here is his statement to the elders in the assembly at Ephesus: "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after

them" (Acts 20:28-30). And in his final written message before his death, he added, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come...Evil men and seducers (or imposters) shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived" (II Timothy 3:1, 13).

The late James Orr, a distinguished Bible scholar, reportedly predicted at the turn of the century that the theological battle of the twenty-first century will be fought around the fortress of the worth and authority of Holy Scripture. We are in the thick of that battle today. Is the Bible the Word of God or is it the work of man? For myself I cannot see how the Bible can possibly be the product of man's efforts. If the Bible is confined to human thought, then why is there only one such book? Whatever man has produced in the past he has reproduced with improvements. Many attempts have been made to paraphrase and revise the Bible, but no man has ever attempted to write a Bible of his own.

The questions which relate to life here and hereafter can be answered with satisfaction only after we have proved to ourselves whether or not the Bible is a true revelation from God. There are leaders in various branches of religion who admit to Divine revelation in nature and through reason, but who deny a supernatural revelation in writing. The natural theology of the deist has revealed Himself in nature, to be sure, but such a limited revelation has in it no solution to the problem of evil. Christian belief cannot be satisfied with a limited revelation of God derived from the light of nature and the processes of human reasoning. Man needs the Bible!



# REFLECTIONS of FAITH

*edited by  
Kathy Jo Kirkbride*

## Snowflakes

I tried counting snowflakes when I thought life was dull.  
My horizons looked empty; His was so full-  
Full of uniqueness, purpose, and plan,  
Crafted delicately by His tender hand,  
Sent down from heaven to remind me that He  
Had purposed and planned uniquely for me.  
Oh personal God! You thoughtfully give,  
So intimately meet me right where I live.  
If you can make snowflakes EACH beautifully fine,  
I know You have reason for this life of mine.

*Linda Mohler*

## The Sonnet of a Snowflake

"Hast thou entered into the  
treasures of the snow?" Job 38:22

Blow me around winds fierce and swift,  
And as I swirl  
Lift me in circuitous curl  
And find for me a place to drift.

Sweep the ridges bare and clean.  
Etch the rocks in bas-relief,  
Then safe from gale, toil, and grief  
Lay me down in a quiet ravine.

There I'll rest from the blow you dealt!  
Losing my unique formation,  
Prolonging my liquidation  
'Til the sun my form doth melt.

Thus ends my treasured form and fame  
And by rivulet and river I'll leap,  
Returning to join that fathomless deep  
From whence my existence came.

*B.C. Jennings*



# *"Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself..."*

by  
LoAnna Hamilton

How is the Christian supposed to act towards other people? What is his conduct to be like? We will go to the Bible and look at some verses to get a few guidelines.

In Matthew 22:39 Christ commands us to love our neighbors as ourselves. That means we should care for others and have concern for them just as we do ourselves. Proverbs 3:28 says, "Say not unto thy neighbor, Go and come again, and tomorrow I will give, when thou hast it by thee." We are to help meet the needs of those around us. If a friend comes to us in need of food or shelter, he should be gladly received into our home.

Proverbs 25: 17 says, "Withdraw thy foot from thy neighbor's house, lest he be weary of thee, and so hate thee." It is good and pleasing to the Lord to visit with people, but no one should visit so much or so long that he becomes an unwelcome guest. We must be considerate of other people and their daily way of life and not interfere with their plans and responsibilities. And we must remember we have a responsibility to our own home also.

Proverbs 24: 28 tells us not to be "a witness against thy neighbor without a cause," and not to deceive with our own lips. How easy it is to talk about others and discuss the way they act, the things they have done and said, and the way they dress. How easy it is to slander someone with whom we are angry and try to get others to

look down upon them. The right way to conduct ourselves is to hold our tongues from gossip no matter how interesting it makes the conversation. If we have something to straighten out with another person we should go to him (Prov. 25:9), not to everyone else but him.

Proverbs also has some guidelines about how we do speak. Proverbs 25:11 says, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver," and Proverbs 15:23 says, "A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth; and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!" Our words are to be pleasant and sweet to the ear; words that make people happy. They should never be words that are untrue or unnecessary but rather, words spoken "in due season"; words that are spoken at the perfect time.

So how are we to act towards others? We are to be a help in time of need and be hospitable to others, treating them well, as we want to be treated. We are to be considerate to others and not take advantage of their hospitality. We should make sure we are a welcome guest. We are to speak kindly of others and not cause shame to come to them. Our words are to be words that are beautiful and good to hear.

The book of Proverbs gives us guidelines for living a good and prosperous life. It includes some basic principles for our relationship with others. King Solomon said that his proverbs were for the purpose of receiving wisdom, instruction, and understanding. If we abide by these proverbs and apply them every day, we will live much more harmoniously and peaceably.

## Daily Walk Through God's Word

January 1980

Verse: Isaiah 40:31-

"But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength: They shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint."

January	Morning Matthew	Evening Isaiah
	1	1 & 2
	2	3 & 4
3	3 & 4	5 & 6
4	5	7 & 8
5	6	9 & 10
6	7	11,12,13
7	8	14 & 15
8	9	16,17,18
9	10	19,20,21
10	11	22 & 23
11	12	24 & 25
12	13	26 & 27
13	14	28 & 29
14	15	30 & 31
15	16	32 & 33
16	17	34,35,36
17	18	37 & 38
18	19	39 & 40
19	20	41 & 42
20	21	43 & 44
21	22	45,46,47
22	23	48 & 49
23	24	50 & 51
24	25	52,53,54
25	26	55,56
26	27	57 & 58
27	28	59 & 60
	Philippians	
28	1	61 & 62
29	2	63 & 64
30	3	65
31	4	66

Mrs. Jim Melton was saved at the age of thirteen. Since her conversion she has served the Lord faithfully in many capacities.

She served as a Sunday school teacher many years and taught all ages of children. Even today there are those who come back and thank her for her ministry in their lives. Many of her former students are now in full-time Christian service. The fruit of her faithful labor in earlier years is now being seen.

A member of Faith Baptist Church in Gallipolis, Ohio, Mrs. Melton, who is now seventy-seven, has not been able to have an obvious active part in her church because of illness. She is not able to attend regularly, but does when she can and brightens everyone's day. She always has a kind word and a hug for everyone. To demonstrate her ministry of love, she was chosen as "Sweetheart of the Year" in 1978 by her church family.

Though not able to take an active part in teaching now, Mrs. Melton is very active at home in her own ministries of mailing cards and praying. Cards are sent on birthdays and anniversaries, to those in the hospital or at home who are ill, and to those just needing encouragement. She allows the Lord to lead in



# Servants

n Lahaie

the selection of verses and tracts to include. Many have mentioned to the Pastor what a blessing this ministry has been in their lives. Although many times unnoticed, her ministry through cards continues faithfully.

Mrs. Melton, as a very active prayer warrior, firmly believes Philippians 4:6 and practices it daily. She makes lists and puts names of people and situations down, along with the date. Then when they are answered she again writes the date. This way she has a constant reminder of God's answers to prayer and can thank and praise Him for them.

Mrs. Melton is faithful in the ministries the Lord has given her. She wants to keep doing little things to serve Christ. Even when not feeling well she continues. Paul exhorts us to "not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have, therefore, opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith" (Gal. 6:9,10).

Allow Mrs. Melton's example to be an encouragement to you. Use what you have and do what you can for the Lord faithfully and He will reward you in due season.

## Note Worthy

*edited by  
Cathi Finnemore*

Just as I am, without one plea,  
But that thy blood was shed for me  
And that thou bidst me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

At the age of 32, Charlotte Elliot developed a chronic illness. Charlotte, once a very active woman, lived her next fifty years as a sickly invalid. During the first stages of her illness, she became bitter and resentful and railed on God for bringing such a trial upon her.

One day Dr. Cesar Malan, a famous Swiss clergyman, visited in the Elliot home. At dinner Charlotte began speaking very crossly and bitterly against the providence of God. While the family left the table in embarrassment, Dr. Malan gently began to counsel Charlotte. Finally Dr. Malan broke her wall of resentment, and she received Christ as her Savior. Dr. Malan's advice to her was, "Give yourself to God, just as you are."

Fourteen years later, on the anniversary of her conversion, Charlotte Elliot penned her testimony. It has become the best loved invitation hymn of modern times. That hymn is, "Just as I am."

Just as I am Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

### Verse For The Month:

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength."

Isaiah 26: 3,4

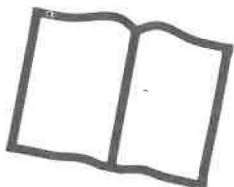
### Thought For The Month

"A smile is a light in the window of the face that shows the heart is at home."



# Light for Living

by Dr. James T. Jeremiah



A LOOK AT  
THE BOOK

"Ordinary people think a piece of rope is a piece of rope," said Ben Goldman, of Wilmington, California. "For me, rope is a science. Rope has romance." Goldman, 66, has been in the rope business 50 years. With \$1,500,000 annual gross sales, his company is one of the largest rope companies in the Western United States. Last year, Goldman imported 750,000 pounds of sisal rope from Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula; 500,000 pounds of rope from Portugal, and 250,000 pounds of manila rope from the Philippines. He also imports rope from Africa, Asia, South America, and Indonesia. Goldman sells 50 different kinds of rope for uses that include prizefight rings, ships, movie sets, hammocks, and parcelpost wrapping. That is a lot of rope.

An old adage says, "If you give a calf enough rope, he will hang himself." Goldman has sold enough rope to hang a lot of calves and people too. There are many, though, who continue to hang themselves without rope. They do a pretty good job of it by the way they emphasize the insignificant things of life and ignore that which has little or no value.

Here is an announcement that illustrates the point. "Help wanted: Millions of people for two weeks of hard outdoor labor, 12 to 16 hours a day. Experience helpful but not necessary. Crowded working conditions; intense sunshine, sweltering temperatures, rain, gales, and so on. Many hazards involved. No time for meals, coffee breaks, chats. No wages or salary. Applicants must agree to pay all expenses. No others need apply." What is this? Is it a clear statement on the privilege and cost of being a disciple? Or does it describe conditions in a slave labor camp? No. It's commonly called a vacation.

If we could put that much effort in being disciples, what great Christians we would be! "And he said to them all, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away" (Luke 9:23-25).

"Allegiance even to death is demanded of Christ's followers" (C. Ryrie). "Is life really

worth living?" the philosopher asked his students. From the back row came this answer, "What else can you do with it?" This is a good question. The secret of "living it" is found in Jesus Christ. John 10:10 states, "...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Phil. 1:21). "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Gal. 2:20).

Receiving life in Christ is by faith and is relatively easy. Living that life demands all we can give to it and much more that we shall give by living it.

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## Let's Chatter

by **About a Matter**  
LoAnna Hamilton

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Hello everyone! I would like to introduce myself to you. My name is LoAnna Hamilton, and I am the new student editor of *Living Springs*.

I would also like to introduce the rest of the 1980 staff. On puzzles are editor Bob King and Larry Lim; on poetry is editor Kathy Jo Kirkbride; on typing is heat typist Teresa Galbreath, Kathy Payne, and Laura Bearss, plus some of the writers; the writers are Cathi Finnemore, Michelle Randall, Keith Wharton, Sharon Lahaie, and Paul Sewell; and the artists are Julie Pitts and Becky Needles. Please put us on your prayer list as we all have a big job to do.

Remember, if you have any suggestions or criticism for the paper please let us know. We also like to know what things you especially like about the paper and ways in which it may have enriched your life. Another thing-if you have any poetry which you have written, please send it in as we would love to use it in *Living Springs* if we can.

We would love to hear from you! We hope the paper is a great blessing to you!



# Quizzle

by  
Bob King

There are sixteen books of the Old and New Testaments located vertically, horizontally, or diagonally in this word search. The sixteen books are listed below the puzzle for your convenience in finding them.

BOOKS: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, James, Peter, Jude, Joel, Job, Titus, Daniel, Ezra, Amos, Jonah.

E	K	U	L	J	O	N	A	H	G
A	R	T	C	O	D	S	B	J	S
M	A	T	T	H	E	W	O	T	E
F	M	C	F	N	S	E	J	I	M
S	E	L	T	N	P	R	E	T	A
O	G	T	A	S	H	E	D	U	J
M	J	M	E	V	O	H	L	S	B
A	O	C	U	M	D	A	R	Z	E
R	E	T	E	P	A	L	E	U	K
F	L	E	I	N	A	D	R	I	S

## Looking At God's Creation

by  
Mark J. Highman

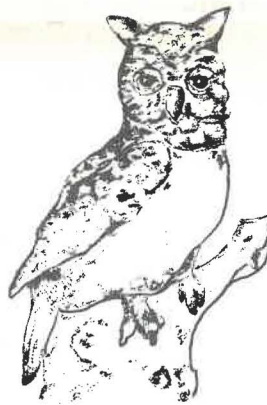
"Wise as an ole' owl." Ever hear that saying? The owl is an interesting bird.

Unlike most birds, the eyes of the owl are in the front of its head which enables the bird to focus on an object with both eyes at once. This gives him a sharper picture of what is below. Interestingly enough, though, the owl's eyes do not move in the sockets. He must move his head in order to follow an object.

The feathers of an owl are soft and fluffy, and are so colored as to blend in with its environment. Only God would have thought of that!

Owls have large, powerful claws that can easily grasp and hold onto any tasty morsel of a rodent or whatever they should desire for a midnight snack!

Thinking of owls and wisdom reminds me of a verse in James 1:5: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God...and it shall be given him."



What is wisdom? Wisdom is the ability to use knowledge. You probably can think of some people who seem to know all the answers, but never put them to use. They lack in wisdom.

How about ourselves? Let's think about salvation. Many people *know* that all they have to do for eternal life is trust in Christ alone for it, but that's not good enough. God says that even the demons know, and they certainly are not saved (James 1:19). We

must make use of our knowledge. What is meant by that? To have eternal life we must: (1) receive the fact that Christ is the living and resurrected Lord; (2) transfer trust for eternal life from self (good works alone) to Christ; (3) receive Christ as Saviour (Rev. 3:20 tells us Christ wants to be your Saviour—you must invite Him into your life); (4) receive Christ as the Lord of your life; and (5) repent or confess your sins. As you can see, this is more than knowing: it is committing. If you are not trusting in Christ for eternal life today, do so. It is a wise decision!

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*But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.*

John 4:14

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